

HCI Research Assistant at the Agricultural Informatics Lab

At the [Agricultural Informatics Lab](#), we conduct design research and technology development to improve resilience in food and agricultural systems. We build a range of products, from farmer-facing decision support tools and community-oriented local food system toolkits, to developer-facing APIs that serve a range of agricultural data. We conduct human-centered design research, translate our findings into usable and useful software prototypes, think critically about the role of technology in local and global food systems, and build real tools for real users. Each of our projects includes: a partnership with domain experts and communities (e.g., agronomy researchers, farmers, food hub coordinators), a mix of undergraduate students, graduate students, senior personnel, and interdisciplinary faculty. All our work is grounded in community needs and desires and results in open source projects.

We are looking to hire a **research assistant** who is willing to take on a range of HCI, UX, and design research and prototyping tasks across the breadth of work in our lab. This will include:

- Assisting with running virtual design sprints to specify open ag tech functionality.
- Assisting with design, management, and execution of a qualitative research study to understand farmer challenges with soil health data collection and data management tools
- Create design prototypes for decision support tools, farm management tools, and ag software.
- Contribution to HCI research efforts.
- Interface with partners at [OpenTEAM](#), [PSA](#) and the [Resilient Food](#) project.

Skills & Languages Needed:

- Familiarity with UX/UI research, including: conducting interviews, creating personas, user journey maps, creating prototypes, and other design artifacts.
- Articulating research findings for use by developers, users, funders, and other stakeholders.
- Ability to manage and maintain remotely conducted design projects using a range of tools including: virtual whiteboards (e.g., Miro), project management tools (e.g., Trello), data management tools (e.g., Airtable), and design tools (e.g., Figma, Sketch).
- Ability with mentoring and training students.

Preferred Experience:

- Some relevant work experience in design research (can include schoolwork).
- 1-2 years of relevant educational experience including HCI, UX, and design concepts.
- Must be enrolled or plan to be enrolled as a full time student at Purdue University.
- A portfolio, overview of previous projects, or links to sample projects, is required.

Apply here: <https://bit.ly/axilabjobs>

You can contact Dr. Ankita Raturi (ankita@purdue.edu) for additional details and to express interest. We look forward to working with you!